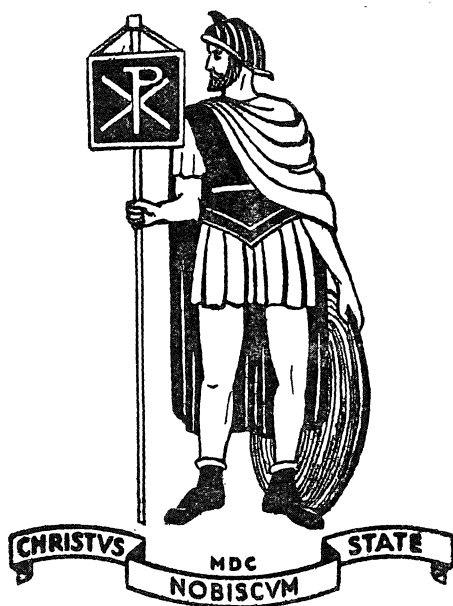


The  
Alcester Grammar



School Record

December, 1955

# Alcester Grammar School Record

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No. 112

DECEMBER, 1955

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EDITOR : MR. V. V. DRULLER.

COMMITTEE :

Ann Swinglehurst, Beryl Pope, Pinfield, Finnemore.

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## OLD SCHOLARS' GUILD

*President* : Mrs. M. Feast.

*Treasurer* : Mrs. D. Taylor.

*Secretary* : H. Canning.

### Summer Reunion

Held at School on Saturday, July 23rd, the reunion was attended by a large number of Old Scholars. On this occasion we were favoured with a fine, very warm day, which was very welcome for the tennis arranged for the afternoon. The usual programme of dancing, etc., was carried through in the evening, the gathering finally coming to a close at midnight.

### Winter Reunion

The second reunion of 1955 will take place at School on the evening of Saturday, December 17th (by kind permission of the Governors and Headmaster). It is hoped that Old Scholars will make a special effort to attend, as the Guild is presenting to the School a lectern as a memorial to the many Old Scholars who served in the Forces during the second world war. A business meeting will take place at 7.30 p.m., followed at 8.15 p.m. by the presentation. For the remainder of the time a social evening has been arranged.

### Badges and Scarves

The president has now a good supply of Old Scholars' badges and scarves. These will be obtainable at the coming reunion.

## SCHOOL REGISTER

### VALETE

- |  |   |
|--|---|
| <p>*Baylis, R. G. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Bolt, P. R. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Careless, D. R. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Cleeton, M. A. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Davis, P. A. T. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Hall, S. A. (VI), 1947-55.<br/>         *Harrison, B. F. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Keyte, G. D. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Ledbury, M. W. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Lidgey, A. L. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Manning, F. E. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Merris, S. A. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Miller, B. C. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *O'Nions, P. D. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Palmer, P. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         *Thornton, A. W. (VI), 1949-55.<br/>         *Winspear, S. M. (VI), 1948-55.<br/>         Bint, S. A. (Va), 1950-55.<br/>         Grail, M. (Va), 1953-55.<br/>         Hodson, A. J. (Va), 1950-55.<br/>         Jones, B. (Va), 1950-55.<br/>         Sharpe, R. A. (Va), 1950-55.<br/>         Ward, D. J. (Va), 1950-55.</p> | <p>Ward, M. A. (Va), 1950-55.<br/>         Webb, J. M. (Va), 1950-55.<br/>         Bluck, M. A. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Bough, J. N. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Davis, A. M. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Dixon, J. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Fletcher, A. P. (Vb), 1953-55.<br/>         Hawthorne, M. J. (Vb), 1951-55.<br/>         Jones, A. R. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Jones, C. M. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Mills, M. H. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Pugh, M. M. J. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Smart, J. N. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Whitehouse, B. A. (Vb), 1950-55.<br/>         Gardner, S. E. (IVb), 1951-55.<br/>         Lea, M. B. (IVb), 1953-55.<br/>         Ludlow, K. (IVb), 1950-55.<br/>         Smith, R. (IVb), 1951-55.<br/>         Tatlow, D. J. (IVb), 1951-55.<br/>         Evans, R. C. (IIa), 1953-55.<br/>         Penney, C. L. (Ia), 1954-55.<br/>         Rushton, E. M. (Ia), 1954-55.</p> |
|--|---|

\* Prefect.

### SALVETE

- |  |   |  |
|--|---|--|
| <p>Bailey, J. (Ia).<br/>         Brand, M. C. (Ia).<br/>         Brook, D. G. (Ib).<br/>         Brooks, P. M. (Ia).<br/>         Carleton, R. E. (Ib).<br/>         Clark, H. B. (Ia).<br/>         Clarke, H. M. (Ib).<br/>         Crook, N. (Ib).<br/>         Downing, P. M. (Ia).<br/>         Draper, C. M. (Ib).<br/>         Dugmore, C. J. (Ia).<br/>         Eborall, P. J. (Ib).<br/>         Edwards, A. M. (Ia).<br/>         Finnemore, P. M. (Ib).<br/>         Fitzmaurice, J. R. K. (Ib).<br/>         Forman, C. M. (Ib).<br/>         Fridman, P. S. (Ia).<br/>         Gillett, P. J. (Ia).<br/>         Goward, M. I. (Ia).<br/>         Grummett, A. M. (Ib).<br/>         Handy, D. (Ia).<br/>         Hawthorne, J. F. (Ib).<br/>         Haydon, M. A. (Ia).</p> | <p>Highman, I. M. (Ia).<br/>         Ingram, S. A. (Ia).<br/>         Jackson, E. H. (Ia).<br/>         Jenkins, D. B. (IVa).<br/>         Jones, I. A. (Ib).<br/>         Jones, J. R. (Ib).<br/>         Jordan, M. (Ib).<br/>         Lees, D. M. (IIb).<br/>         Lovell, M. J. (Ia).<br/>         Mason, J. A. (Ia).<br/>         Mills, C. P. J. (Ia).<br/>         Moore, J. M. (Ib).<br/>         Moore, S. J. (Ia).<br/>         Odell, K. R. (Ia).<br/>         Orton, S. (Ib).<br/>         Parker, M. A. (Ib).<br/>         Peach, G. H. (Vb).<br/>         Pinder, S. J. (Ib).<br/>         Pinfield, A. (Ia).<br/>         Pope, M. E. (Ia).<br/>         Prokain, V. A. (Ia).<br/>         Prowlin, I. (Ia).<br/>         Savage, L. J. (Ia).</p> | <p>Shrimpton, J. R. (Ib).<br/>         Simpson, M. E. (Ib).<br/>         Smith, C. J. (Ib).<br/>         Smith, D. M. (Ib).<br/>         Stallard, A. M. (Ia).<br/>         Stanford, E. C. (Ib).<br/>         Symonds, L. A. (Ia).<br/>         Tallis, J. (IIa).<br/>         Taplin, L. J. L. (Ib).<br/>         Taylor, P. A. (Ib).<br/>         Thornton, J. A. (Ib).<br/>         Tillsley, S. M. (Ia).<br/>         Tuckey, J. (Ib).<br/>         Wall, F. M. (Ia).<br/>         Ward, J. B. (Ib).<br/>         Ward, R. B. (Ib).<br/>         Watson, E. G. (Ib).<br/>         Welch, V. D. (Ia).<br/>         Wiles, S. M. (Va).<br/>         Wilkinson, J. N. (Ib).<br/>         Wimplett, B. G. (Ia).<br/>         Wyatt, P. R. (Ia).<br/>         Yeomans, P. R. (Ib).</p> |
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There have been 328 pupils in attendance this term.

**BIRTHS**

- On May 23rd, to Mr. and Mrs. A. Paterson Morgan—a son.  
On August 16th, to Mr. and Mrs. L. Lilley—a daughter.  
On September 14th, to Mr. and Mrs. B. Crow (née Gwen Smith)—a daughter.  
On October 9th, to Mr. and Mrs. G. W. Collier (née Joan Tuckey)—a daughter.  
On October 12th, to Mr. and Mrs. D. Berry (née Barbara Heighway)—a daughter.  
On November 13th, to Mr. and Mrs. R. Fitzsimmons (née Barbara Hewlett)—a son.

**MARRIAGES**

- On March 19th, at Headless Cross, Desmond J. Hunt to Joan M. Hopkins (scholar, 1945-50).  
On June 25th, at Knowle, Gordon Hillman (scholar, 1940-46) to Marjorie Joan Faulkner (scholar, 1941-44).  
On June 25th, at Astwood Bank, Basil F. Hunt (scholar, 1937-48) to Margaret Frances Humphries.  
On July 23rd, at Salford Priors, Raymond Henry Stanley (scholar, 1942-50) to Cherry Ann James (scholar, 1943-47).  
On July 29th, at Mappleborough Green, John Michael Edwards to Shiela Mary Carlyle (scholar, 1941-44).  
On August 6th, at Alcester, Michael Frederick Heath to June Elizabeth Walker (scholar, 1943-45).  
On August 13th, at Bidford-on-Avon, David E. J. Hill (scholar, 1941-48) to Joan Margaret Savage (scholar, 1942-48).  
On August 13th, at Stratford-on-Avon, James Browne to Elizabeth Mary Black (scholar, 1939-45).  
On August 20th, at Bidford-on-Avon, Alan Richard Wood (scholar, 1942-48) to Barbara Ellen Longstreeth.  
On August 20th, at Studley, Donald Charles Beachus (scholar, 1946-48) to Marjorie Beryl Preece.  
On August 27th, at Studley, Gordon F. Spiers to Barbara Peace (scholar, 1946-51).  
On September 3rd, at Alcester, Robert D. Weatherhead to Wendy Ann Grummett (scholar, 1947-52).  
On September 10th, at Alcester, David Hugh Austin to Sheila Dorothy Woolley (scholar, 1940-47).  
On September 10th, at Redditch, Alan John Gray (scholar, 1945-50) to Margery Ann Milligan.  
On September 15th, at Pembroke, Bermuda, Roger Sayers to Barbara Jaques (scholar 1944-49).  
On September 21st, at Studley, Raymond C. Lamb to Sheilah Ann Thompson (scholar, 1940-50).  
On October 29th, at Redditch, Alfred C. Smith (scholar, 1927-29) to Phyllis Braziel.

**DEATHS**

On August 24th, at Birmingham, Courtney N. Ward (scholar, 1939-41)—aged 29 years.

On October 26th, at Clifford Chambers, Malcolm B. Lea (scholar, 1953-55)—aged 16 years.

**OLD SCHOLARS' NEWS**

J. R. W. Whitehouse, who has been Canadian Education and Publicity Director of the Textile Workers' Union of America since 1951, was Canadian Labour delegate to the fifth session of the International Labour Organisation held in Geneva in September this year.

\* \* \* \*

J. D. W. Davies, who is serving in the R.A.F. at Pembroke Dock, was a member of a special guard of honour for H.M. the Queen on her recent tour of Wales.

\* \* \* \*

R. H. Stanley, a sergeant in the R.A.P.C., has until recently been stationed in Egypt.

\* \* \* \*

A. Bradley has obtained his B.A. degree in Mathematics at Birmingham University, with third class honours.

\* \* \* \*

A. Hadwen is now stationed in Germany.

\* \* \* \*

J. Smart has joined the Merchant Navy.

\* \* \* \*

D. Moizer has been awarded the diploma of the Birmingham School of Architecture.

\* \* \* \*

J. H. Hemming has passed with second class honours the Intermediate City and Guilds examination. He has also gained the Midland Federation award for the apprentice of highest merit in the Evesham and District Association, and a prize for first place in the plumbing group.

\* \* \* \*

For the second successive year, Barbara Druller has been selected as goalkeeper for London University Women's Hockey 1st XI.

\* \* \* \*

Janet Bamford (née Davies) has gone for two months to West Africa as a Women's Institute representative in a party organised by the United Kingdom Travel Board to study life in Nigeria and the Gold Coast.

\* \* \* \*

Margaret Whatley (née Hilditch) has for the past five years been living on a small island near the Isle of Skye of which she and her husband and family are the only inhabitants. They have been occupied in farming and reclaiming land.

### **"HAPPY CHRISTMAS!"**

Woken up as usual by having my shoulder shaken and hearing an urgent "Beryl! Beryl!" with my eyes still shut I automatically opened my mouth to receive the thermometer. At last left in peace, I prepared to snuggle under the bedclothes again, only to shoot bolt upright in a second. It was Christmas morning. A smile of satisfaction spread over my face as I surveyed the heap of presents, including the packed stocking given to each child by the hospital, which reposed at the bottom of my bed. Then I looked round at my companions, already excitedly unwrapping their gifts, for, after all, it is people that make a truly joyful Christmas, and not presents.

On my left were two cots each containing a tiny baby. The plump, endearing Bill, who was the darling of the whole ward, gurgled contentedly at the nurse, while Christopher lay staring quietly at the ceiling, with his tiny mouth puckered up. Somehow, as I nursed each one in turn, I always felt more affection for the neglected Christopher than for the spoilt Bill.

In the bed across the way, Patsy, a little bundle of unceasing vitality, was performing her favourite trick of standing on her head in the middle of the bed—an action calculated not to do any self-respecting mastoid any good, but to harass the most efficient nurse.

On one side of her lay Jacky, a veritable cherub with his fair curls and deep blue eyes. How sweet he looked as he beamed merrily over the top of his cot! Then I smiled to myself as I remembered how this angelic four-year-old became a kicking, shrieking, squealing, squirming tornado regularly every night at injection hour.

On the other side of her, Lawrence, who came from a home for backward boys, and never had any visitors on visiting days, was opening his presents, or rather present, for the only one at the bottom of his bed was the hospital stocking. When I was first admitted I had looked askance at his rowdy ways. He would lie full length on his bed and yell loud abuse of a very definite quality at any unfortunate doctor or specialist making his rounds of the ward. However, the previous night I had glanced up from my book to find him standing by my bed, fixedly scowling at me. "Oh, hallo," I said.

"Can yer write?" he growled.

"Well, I should hope so, at my age," I laughed.

"'Cos I wantcher to write a letter home for me."

"All right," I said, reaching for my pen and writing pad. "What shall I put?"

"I dunno," he said, puckering his brow.

"Well, have you got any sisters or brothers?" On receiving a brief nod of assent, I asked: "How many?"

"Fifteen altogether last I knew, but I 'spect there's some more by now."

I wrote what I thought a boy of nine would put in a letter to his family, and then handed the sheet to Lawrence. He gazed closely at the lines, which meant nothing to him, and then violently tore the paper into minute scraps. Aghast at the wrecking of my handiwork, I cried out: "What did you do that for?"

His ugly little face lost its veneer of toughness and his expression became wistful and lonely-looking.

"I don't s'pose anybody at home 'ud bother to read it if I sent it," he sighed.

The next moment he was his customary noisy self, as he played at being a train in and out between the rows of beds.

At last my gaze came to rest on the girl who lay on my right—Pauline—the sweetest and most contented person I have ever met, although she had spent most of her life flat on her back in a narrow hospital bed, with the lower part of her body encased in plaster, and was small and puny for her thirteen years. It had been a day of great celebration for the whole ward when she had taken her first few faltering steps supported on her special crutches.

As I looked at her, she turned her head and smiled serenely. "Happy Christmas," she said.

I smiled. "Happy Christmas," I returned.

BERYL POPE (VI).

### **STRANGLES BEACH**

This summer, whilst I was in Cornwall, I spent much time exploring the many beaches and caves that lie along the bleak, northern coast. Here the sea itself seems to invade the land by stunting the growth of the trees, thereby giving them a maritime appearance.

On my wanderings to Crackington Haven, I often passed a sign-post with the ominous words "Strangles Beach." Although I continued to pass it daily for a week, I was fascinated by this terrible name; yet I could not gain the courage to explore the place which bore it. However, one day I decided that I could not be frightened by a name on a lonely finger-post, so I turned up the lane which led to the beach. There was nothing unusual about this lane: in the hedgerows the shy, wild flowers bloomed with the same profusion as they did elsewhere. I opened a gate at the end of the lane and crossed a field which sloped to the sea and which ended abruptly. There, four hundred feet below, lay the beach itself. I clambered down the steep, winding path of the cliff, and arrived on the beach.

I was then seized by the immense loneliness of the place. The sand stretched in a long, sweeping curve, broken by jutting rock formations with fantastic shapes. Here and there lay driftwood with the bleached appearance of parts of a skeleton from some extinct sea-beast.

The mists whirled in from the sea, and the only sounds to be heard were the sad cries of the strange sea-birds which flew overhead, the slow rhythmical beat of the sea upon the shore, and the distant knell of a sea-buoy.

There was nothing unnatural here, yet I was conscious that I was an intruder and that the place itself resented my presence. Here, where land and sea have waged their eternal struggle since the world began, I was merely an inquisitive stranger.

I turned and hurried up the path, and I was glad when I reached the field and lane. When I turned and looked down at the beach it seemed as though I was gazing over the margin of the world.

I shuddered and hurried for home, resolving never to return there again, but to keep to the familiar beaches with the fishermen's cottages, the little boats and the happy sound of the bathers.

I learned, on returning to the village where I was staying, that this beach was given its name because it was here that the sea usually rendered up its dead.

J. A. SHEPPARD (IIIa).

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### **ELECTRONIC BRAINS**

Electronics. This is a word of which we hear more and more every day. Whenever we pick up the paper we read of some new development or use to which this comparatively new science has been put. When I read about these things, I wonder how it is all done, so you can imagine my delight when, during the summer holidays, I was invited to look round the works of a firm which specialises in the making of electronic calculating machines. Of course I accepted the invitation, and a date was fixed for me to go.

The tour started in the morning, when my father and I presented ourselves at the firm's offices in Park Lane, London. Here we had a demonstration of all the machines made by the firm, showing us the numerous uses to which they could be put. All of them were not electronically operated, but, nevertheless, they were all very complicated.

The machines are all worked on the punch-card system. With this system the data for any problem to be calculated is punched in a card in terms of holes. The card is then fed into the machine, which distinguishes between their positions and then types or punches the result at the other end of the machine.

After dinner, we were taken out to Letchworth to see the actual building of the machines. Here we saw the construction of tabulators, used by large firms to work out their pay rolls, bills and many other jobs.

We then came on to the electronic section, where the building of electronic computers was taking place. These gigantic machines, which would completely cover one side of an average room, were just one mass of wires and valves. There were so many valves, in fact, that the machine had to be kept cool by means of a built-in fan.



With this machine it is possible to analyse, say, the readings obtained from the test flights of aircraft or even calculate the structure of a new chemical crystal. This is made possible by the fact that it has a memory, and can remember data until it is ready to bring it into use.

Another machine which I am sure would be very welcome in the Science Sixth was the electronic calculator. This machine is able to multiply, divide, add, subtract, or even work out equations, at the rate of one hundred problems per minute.

All the machines are made with great precision, and even the manufacture of the cards is no less than a work of art. These cards, which are made of a special type of thin cardboard, have to be made with a great accuracy and checked electrically for any impurity which would otherwise have an effect on the machine.

These highly mathematical machines are becoming ever more popular throughout the world for all manner of jobs, from the filing of criminal records at Scotland Yard to the analysis of the last census. The main emphasis, however, is always on research to improve and to cut down costs, so who knows, the Science Sixth may yet get their electronic calculator, bearing in mind that the present one costs about £20,000 to build!

M. P. FINNEMORE (VI).

### NOTES AND NEWS

The Autumn Term opened on Tuesday, September 6th, and closes on Wednesday, December 21st.

\* \* \* \*

The head boy is Bates, and the head girl is Ann Swinglehurst. Ruth Highman is deputy head girl.

\* \* \* \*

The prefects are—*Boys*: Bates, Bailey i, Oseland, Birch, Cooke i, Finnemore, Lewis i, Merris, Parker, Pinfield, Sale, Treadgold, Walker; *Girls*: Ann Swinglehurst, Ruth Highman, Beryl Pope, Jane Rawbone, Priscilla Apperley, Valerie Baseley, Pat Fowler, Ann Freeman, Muriel Harrison, Sally Hunt, Mary James, Muriel Lowe.

\* \* \* \*

Sides captains are—*Brownies*: Oseland, A. Swinglehurst (games), V. Baseley (arts and crafts); *Jackals*: Pinfield, J. Rawbone (games), B. Pope (arts and crafts); *Tomtits*: Bates, S. Hunt (games), A. Holt (arts and crafts).

\* \* \* \*

Games captains are—*Football*: Bates; *Hockey*: R. Highman; *Netball*: J. Rawbone.

\* \* \* \*

In the final of the tennis cup tournament, played on Tuesday, July 19th, Ann Swinglehurst beat Sheila Winspear 6—4, 2—6, 6—4.

The annual Staff v. VIth Form tennis match took place in the evening of Tuesday, July 19th, the VIth Form winning by 129 games to 95. The teams were—*Staff*: Mr. Petherbridge and Miss Hewitt, Mr. Thornton and Miss Pickard, Mr. Winter and Miss Morris (and Miss Evans). *Miss Smith and Miss Nettleton, Miss Young and Mrs. Harrison*: *VIth Form*: Davis and A. Swinglehurst, Keyte and S. Winspear, Miller and A. Lidgely, Cleeton and S. Merris, Bolt and P. O'Nions.

\* \* \* \*

The picture awarded to the Form with the neatest Form Room went to Ia.

\* \* \* \*

The tennis match with the Old Scholars arranged for Thursday, July 21st, had to be cancelled on account of bad weather. In its place a session of country dancing was held in the hall.

\* \* \* \*

Half term was arranged for the week beginning Monday, October 24th.

\* \* \* \*

At the end of last term we said goodbye to Mr. R. Winter and Miss S. Smith, who left to take up new posts. We offer them our best wishes on the occasion of their marriage.

\* \* \* \*

This term we welcome to the Staff Mr. J. Benton to take charge of woodwork, Mr. R. F. Tidmarsh to take the boys' physical training, and Miss Norman to take the girls' physical training.

\* \* \* \*

Early in the term, Upper School boys attended a lecture on careers in the Royal Navy.

\* \* \* \*

On Monday, October 17th, Geography pupils from the Upper School were given a film display by Aims of Industry.

\* \* \* \*

During October we received a fortnight's visit from Herr Schmidt, who had come from Germany to study procedure in English schools.

\* \* \* \*

On Saturday, October 15th, the Hockey 1st XI competed in the Warwickshire Inter-Schools Tournament at Leamington, coming first in their section, and later third in the finals.

\* \* \* \*

Birch has gained an open scholarship to Welbeck College.

\* \* \* \*

At the beginning of the term the county mobile dental van visited the School, all pupils being inspected, and a number of them receiving dental treatment.

\* \* \* \*

On Thursday, November 10th, Youth Employment officers gave addresses to members of the Fifth Forms.

On Wednesday, November 16th, a party of members of Forms IVa and IVb visited the Memorial Theatre, Stratford-on-Avon, with Miss Young and Mr. Druller for a performance of "Twelfth Night."

### INTOXICATION

I read in the paper about a cow called Daisy who, it appears, tottered across the farmyard, and then fell down and fell fast asleep, snoring very loudly.

The alarmed farmer called for the vet. at once. The vet. took one smell of Daisy's breath and announced, to the farmer's great astonishment, that Daisy was drunk.

The farmer looked into the field, and saw Daisy's companions appearing as though they were at a square dancing party! It was found that the farmer had left his apples in the field and that they had fermented, and had acted on the cows as cider.

On reading this article, I recalled the time when grandfather made some wine.

Grandfather, meaning no harm, threw some fermented raisins into the field for the hens to eat. When he heard an alarming noise, he looked into the field to see his hens dancing a war dance and uttering war-like cries. They were half tottering and half flying around the field!

I often wonder what eggs grandfather collected after that episode.

MARY NORDEN (Va).

### I'M NO MONKEY!

The first day of our holidays, Monday, dawned rather cold, but after a busy morning my cousin and I decided that it was the perfect weather for a good, brisk walk. So, in the afternoon, we set out over fields and numerous stiles. Towards the end of our walk, scratched and worn, we were passing the edge of a wood, when my cousin decided that a photograph of me balanced in the branches of a tree would be interesting. I have *never* been a climber, especially in relation to trees. After various vain struggles I still remained on terra-firma.

At last, I saw a tree which had a small branch, about six inches in length but quite thick, sticking out from the trunk, not too far from the ground. I put my foot on this branch, and with all my might I heaved, to see if it would hold. It did. Good! I could get up. At this point, my cousin, with camera in hand, attracted my attention. We were deep in conversation (I was still precariously balanced on one small branch) when, with one resounding "Crack!" the small branch parted from the trunk, and left me swinging by one arm, ape-like, from one thin branch. I shouted for help, but I received only a grunt from my cousin, who had seen the funny side of it. So did I—later!

Finally, I perceived a stronger tree, and managed a weak smile for the camera.

Hereafter, I shall pose on the ground for my pictures. *I am no monkey!*

JANET CHATWIN (IVa).

### THE AEROPLANE

I had been aware of the noise of the plane for some minutes, in a detached sort of way. Now the monotonous drone was growing noticeably louder as I walked, and my interest was aroused.

I looked up, but I could not see the machine. I glanced about aimlessly, but it evaded detection. I became irritated, and stared all round the sky. The drone continued, but the plane remained invisible. I was by now quite annoyed.

Although I am not one of those whose consuming passion lies in the location and identification of every plane within miles, I knew that if I did not see this plane I should somehow have failed to fulfil an important purpose, just as a young retriever, having been ordered to fetch the fallen quarry, senses that he has unintentionally incurred his master's wrath by his joyful return with a rather disreputable and vaguely pathetic worn-out sock. Even so, I perceived that I was omitting to do something which the fates had placed in my path, a lapse which I should regret for the rest of my life, and on account of which, when old and feeble, I should grieve greatly and pine away to a miserable death.

Therefore, using trees as markers, I carefully quartered the sky, inspecting with great suspicion clouds large enough to hide even the smallest plane, but without result.

With every passing second, my unreasonable annoyance increased. Seeing large stones near at hand, I was obsessed with impracticable and violent ideas of active remonstrance which would have cut short the career of the pilot responsible for the ever-increasing roar of the engines. But his life was spared. I could not see the plane.

Frantically I quartered the sky again. That cloudbank there—to the right of that tree—could that conceal the machine? Or could it be behind one of the hills? Or is it that I imagine I can hear this noise?

All these possibilities, and others too wild to be recorded, passed through my mind and were rejected one by one as impossible. My mind was somehow attracted to this plane, as is the vulture to the carrion, the donkey to the thistle, and the homework enthusiast to the peaceful steps outside the chemistry lab. The whole air was throbbing to the noise of the plane, which must be very near by now . . .

The tractor came into sight over a hedge. As its driver swung the wheel with an experienced hand I turned and walked away in disgust.

D. E. SALE (VI).

### BONFIRE NIGHT

So Bonfire Night is here again!  
With bonfires, fireworks and sometimes rain!  
A great big guy sits on the fire  
With big, black hat and funny attire.

He holds in his hands some huge red rockets,  
And colourful cannons stick out of his pockets.  
His hat contains a Catherine wheel,  
And a roman candle his hand doth seal.

As soon as a match is put to the fire,  
 It flares up well with a smell of tyre.  
 The fireworks go off with a bang! crack! and zoom!  
 Then Guy Fawkes falls to a fiery tomb.

With the fireworks gone and the bonfire out,  
 Then everyone sulks and starts to pout.  
 Until, "It's alright," shouts someone quite near,  
 "There'll be another like this next year."

SYBIL DYSON (IIIa).

### **BLACK SATURDAY**

Nearly everyone has hobbies. Among my hobbies, I find cookery is my favourite. I often do my cooking on a Saturday afternoon. One Saturday I began to gather the ingredients for sausage rolls. All went well until they were put in the oven. I placed them on the shelf and then sat down to do some knitting while they were cooking.

Knitting is another hobby of mine, and I became completely absorbed in knitting my jumper. Suddenly my younger sister said that she could smell something burning. I rushed to the oven and found my precious sausage rolls burnt and ruined. Disappointed, I returned to my knitting, to find that as I had thrown it down my stitches had all come off the pins!

NORMA HEMMING (IVb).

### **SPINDLE**

Sooty lay stretched out among the raspberry canes. It was a sunny day in late August. Sooty knew where she would have her kitten, and the place was all ready for it.

When the kitten came, Sooty managed to keep her secret for three days. "Sooted animal," I said, "where have you put your kitten?" My sister Hilary and I searched the farm but could not find her nest.

Three days later I was walking in the orchard when . . . "Mew! Mew!" came in a high-pitched voice from the tree above me. I looked up, guessing the sound at once. "Sooty! Sooty!" I called. Slowly, a dark tabby head appeared at a hole.

"Pura?" said Sooty.

"So that's where you're hiding!" I exclaimed. "I see."

Everyone was surprised by the news that Sooty had had her kitten up in a tree.

In the second week of September, Sooty triumphantly bore her kitten home. It was pale grey, with eyes like black shoe-buttons. She placed it in an old packing-case in the coal-house.

When discovered, the kitten was very thin. I called it "Spindle," and it has been that ever since. To look at Spindle now, though, you would not see any reason for his name, for he is quite fat. But we still call him Spindle.

HELEN JACKSON (Ia).

## FIRST GLIMPSES OF ENGLAND

Thick mist shrouded the surrounding objects from the eyes of the traveller as he stood on the deck of the trans-Atlantic liner, late of New York. He pulled up the collar of his overcoat, and shivered.

"So this is England," he thought. This was the typical sort of weather he had been warned about. So different from the warm, sun-laden atmosphere of his home town in California, with its palm trees and orange groves scenting the air, its lovely expansive beaches of golden-brown sand and its lovely, warm blue seas. Of course, these blue seas were sometimes rather wild and rough, and occasional sharks made swimming rather uncomfortable, but these little things were endured, and in any case he would rather put up with a few hours' discomfort while the hurricane roared and the seas lashed, than live continuously in this land of fogs and mists and snow and rain . . .

A mournful hooting acknowledged the approach of a small coaster. A minute or two later it appeared, with the mist swirling round its bows and trailing behind in the form of a nebula of clinging, white opaqueness. It fitted in well with its surroundings: salt was caked around its smoke stack and its whole atmosphere was one of dilapidation. He was very pleased when it disappeared into the mist again.

There followed an eerie silence, broken only by the lapping of water and the hooting of ships' sirens. In contrast, this brought up nostalgic memories of his home town at this time of night, the coffee bars and the juke boxes, the pleasure palls and the pool rooms, the neon lights and the hustle and bustle as the thousands of inhabitants went about their business.

He was awakened from his reverie by a voice announcing that the liner would berth in ten minutes. He went down into his cabin and detailed a steward to carry his luggage.

At the appointed time the liner berthed, and the traveller, being a first-class passenger, was among the first allowed off the ship. He stood there on the quay while the crowd jostled around him. He gazed around over the rapidly-emptying quay, over the wet, shiny surface covered with pools of muddy water. Then, with a final gesture of resignation, he turned and followed in the wake of his gaily-dressed fellow-travellers.

N. PINFIELD (VI).

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## NEWSPAPERS

Newspapers are the mouthpiece of the world, for it is the privilege of everyone to be able to voice his opinion in the newspaper columns. The newspaper is the means by which we are kept in constant touch with affairs, political or otherwise, in England and in all parts of the world.

The newspaper world employs many thousands of people. We have reporters, who, as their name suggests, are on the spot at all important social and political functions. In fact, they seem to be present at all extraordinary incidents, no matter what the hour, the weather, or how suddenly the incident arises. The reporter usually has the ability to be able to take photographs in the minimum of time and without any warning. There are also on-the-spot means by which the news-strips and photographs get to their destinations by the quickest possible means, often by aeroplane. The destinations referred to are large buildings containing a large quantity of complicated up-to-date machinery, which is the means of employment for thousands of people. The employees work overnight in their effort to fill the morning newspaper with the latest possible news.

The punctual delivery is due to the efficient organisation of many responsible people. The papers are delivered to all parts of England by road, rail and air. Some of us enjoy the luxury of having our newspapers delivered in time to be on our breakfast tables, for which we have to thank our newspaper boys.

We take our newspapers for granted, but as we found out during the recent newspaper strike, we are at a loss without them.

ANN HARVEY (Va).

### OLLA PODRIDA

The air, writes R.M., helps carbon dioxide to move father up into the fire.

\* \* \* \*

Plato, according to M.Y., is the god of Hell.

\* \* \* \*

From a reliable source we learn that the Jackal girls were at one time in need of a captain and two vices.

\* \* \* \*

Q : *Avec quoi fait-on de la confiture?*

A : *On fait de la confiture avec ma mère.* (J.B.)

\* \* \* \*

A mariner's compass is used, says R.M., for telling the time, the wind and the weather.

\* \* \* \*

J.S. tells us to "take some consecrated sulphuric acid."

\* \* \* \*

It is maintained by G.B. that, if a man climbs 112 feet up a 24 feet ladder, the ladder will slip.

\* \* \* \*

J.W. informs us that Theseus was told by his father to put up a white flag if he was still alive, and a black one if he was dead.

A monogram, says P.R., is a kind of radiogram.

\* \* \* \*

A Second Former tells us of a litter born by eight men.

\* \* \* \*

He was a good motor mechanic, declares S.D., because he had a mechanical mind.

\* \* \* \*

C.D. knows someone who went plumb—and apple—picking.

\* \* \* \*

Extraordinarily enough, P.F. sings solos by herself.

\* \* \* \*

We learn from A.T. that his watch can do a minute in fifty seconds.

\* \* \* \*

In winter, says J.J., the ice is usually frozen.

\* \* \* \*

After hearing *diffugimus* translated as “we flee in all directions,” D.S. would like to know the meaning of *diffugio*.

### A LIFE OF ADVENTURE

Lazily swimming in the warm, shallow waters, the swimmer was transfixed with horror at the sight of the monster. In a flash he turned, fighting furiously against the current; he had to reach the rocks. He must reach them! There was no hope; he knew that it was gaining, gaining all the time. Fear confused him, made his movements erratic and hampered his progress. Bruised on rocks, entangled in weeds, half-blind with terror, still he swam on. Two yards more! Only two more yards! Suddenly, he felt its touch. Exhausted and panic-stricken, he turned to face it.

But the old pike had seen a larger and far plumper little fish for his mid-day meal.

JANET BULLOCK (Va).

### SPORTS DAY, 1955

The annual sports were held on the afternoon of Thursday, July 14th. Contrary to our experiences of recent years, we had little to worry about in connection with climatic conditions, for the eventful day was preceded by a week of fine, warm weather. The usual large gathering of parents, former scholars and other friends lined the wire along the boundary of the field, and witnessed a fine display of athletic performances provided by both boys and girls. This year's sports were diversified by the inclusion of several fresh events, noticeably javelin and discus-throwing, though this was at the expense of the traditional obstacle races. The School is grateful to Mr. Winter and Miss Smith for their gift of a shield for games, to be competed for yearly by the three sides.



Visitors who found the temperature outside rather overpowering were able to retire to the comparative coolness of the School buildings to inspect the customary display of Arts and Craft work in the Hall and the Art Room. For the first time since pre-war days, cookery competitions had been organised, and the culinary work of competitors was on view.

Proceedings were brought to a close by the presentation of medals, cups and shields to winners in Sports and Arts and Crafts competitions by Mrs. J. B. Shewell. Everyone pronounced the afternoon's entertainment, thanks in no small degree to the brilliant weather, one of the best within recent memory.

### RESULTS

(B—Brownies, J—Jackals, T—Tomtits)

\* Indicates a new record.

#### OVER FIFTEEN

##### Boys

- 100 yards—1 Parker (T), 2 Walker (B), 3 Finnemore (B), 4 Miller (B). Time: 11.5 secs.  
 220 yards—1 Parker (T), 2 Finnemore (B), 3 Walker (B), 4 Davis (B). Time: 26.7 secs.  
 440 yards—1 Finnemore (B), 2 Miller (B), 3 Davis (B), 4 Stowe (T). Time: 58.8 secs.\*  
 880 yards—1 Finnemore (B), 2 Davis (B), 3 Rouse (T), 4 Walker (B). Time: 2 mins. 17 secs.\*  
 Hurdles—1 Ludlow (T), 2 Walker (B), 3 Parker (T), 4 Cleeton (T). Time: 15.4 secs.  
 Mile—1 Finnemore (B), 2 Davis (B), 3 Walker (B), 4 Rouse (T). Time: 5 mins. 2.7 secs.  
 High Jump—1 Brazier (J), 2 Miller (B), 3 Ludlow (T), 4 Bailey i (T). Height: 4ft. 11ins.  
 Throwing the Discus—1 Bailey i (T), 2 Cleeton (T), 3 Bates (T), 4 Stowe (T). Distance: 98ft. 0½ins.  
 Putting the Shot—1 Stowe (T), 2 Bailey (T), 3 Walker (B), 4 Parker (T). Distance: 36ft. 5ins.  
 Cross-Country—1 Finnemore (B), 2 Rouse (T), 3 Miller (B). Time: 26 mins. 34.8 secs.  
 Long Jump—1 Brazier (J), 2 Miller (B), 3 Bates (T), 4 Walker (B). Distance: 16ft.  
 Throwing the Javelin—1 Stowe (T), 2 Davis (B), 3 Bates (T), 4 Hawthorne (B). Distance: 124ft. 3ins.

##### GIRLS

- 100 yards—1 R. Highman (J), 2 J. Burford (J), 3 P. O'Nions (J), 4 A. Davis (T). Time: 13.2 secs.  
 220 yards—1 B. Pope (J), 2 R. Highman (J), 3 J. Burford (J), 4 J. Rawbone (J). Time: 30.5 secs.  
 Hurdles—1 R. Highman (J), 2 P. O'Nions (J), 3 A. Swinglehurst (B), 4 J. Burford (J). Time: 12.4 secs.\*  
 High Jump—1 J. Burford (J), 2 B. Whitehouse (B) and J. Rawbone (J), 4 P. O'Nions (J). Height: 4ft. 6½ins.  
 Throwing the Rounders Ball—1 A. Lidgley (T), 2 P. O'Nions (J), 3 F. Jackson (B), 4 B. Whitehouse (B). Distance: 184ft. 6ins.  
 Long Jump—1 A. Davis (T), 2 J. Burford (J), 3 P. O'Nions (J), 4 R. Highman (J). Distance: 14ft.  
 880 yards—1 J. Burford (J), 2 R. Highman (J), 3 J. Rawbone (J), 4 B. Pope (J). Time: 2 mins. 50.3 secs.  
 Throwing the Javelin—1 B. Whitehouse (B), 2 P. O'Nions (J), 3 A. Lidgley (T), 4 R. Highman (J). Distance: 61ft. 7½ins.  
 Throwing the Discus—1 A. Lidgley (T), 2 P. Buskin (B), 3 A. Holt (T), 4 S. Hunt (T). Distance: 70ft. 2ins.

THIRTEEN—FIFTEEN

BOYS

100 yards—1 Gill (J), 2 Bailey ii (T), 3 Danks (T), 4 Shakles (J). Time: 12 secs.  
 220 yards—1 Gill (J), 2 Bailey ii (T), 3 Hopkins (B), 4 Shakles (J). Time 27.2 secs.\*  
 880 yards—1 Gill (J), 2 White (J), 3 Langston (J), 4 Bailey ii (T). Time: 2 mins.  
 24 secs.\*  
 Hurdles—1 Gill (J), 2 Robinson (J), 3 Shakles (J), 4 Cooke iii (J). Time: 13 secs.  
 High Jump—1 Gill (J), 2 Robinson (J) and Waring (J), 4 White (J). Height: 4ft.  
 6ins.  
 Throwing the Cricket Ball—1 Gill (J), 2 Billington (T), 3 Harris i (B), 4 Robinson  
 (J). Distance: 230ft.  
 Long Jump—1 Bailey ii (T), 2 Hopkins (B), 3 Edmonds (T), 4 Robinson (J).  
 Distance: 15ft. 0½ins.  
 Cross-Country—1 Gill (J), 2 White (J), 3 Langston (J). Time: 14 mins. 38 secs.\*  
 Throwing the Javelin—1 Harris i (B), 2 Gill (J), 3 Robinson (J), 4 Morrall (B).  
 Distance: 120ft. 9ins.  
 Throwing the Discu —1 Harris i (B), 2 Gill (J), 3 Billington (T), 4 Austin (T).  
 Distance: 77ft. 4ins.

GIRLS

100 yards—1 C. Down (J), 2 S. Dyson (B), 3 J. Parton (J), 4 M. Millward (T).  
 Time: 12.6 secs.  
 150 yards—1 C. Down (J), 2 J. Parton (J), 3 A. Bird (B), 4 S. Dyson (B). Time:  
 20.3 secs.  
 High Jump—1 C. Down (J), 2 W. Davis (T), 3 M. Norden (B), 4 E. Stewart (J).  
 Height: 4ft. 5½ins.  
 Throwing the Rounders Ball—1 E. Gregory (B), 2 C. Down (J), 3 M. Scott (B), 4 P.  
 Cund (T). Distance: 153ft.  
 Long Jump—1 S. Dyson (B), 2 J. Dugmore (B), 3 J. Steatham (T), 4 A. Bird (B).  
 Distance 13ft. 6½ins.  
 Hurdle —1 E. Gregory (B), 2 A. Bird (B) and S. Dyson (B), 4 C. Down (J). Time:  
 11.8 secs.\*  
 Throwing the Discu—1 J. Dugmore (B), 2 C. Down (J), 3 W. Yates (B), 4 M. Mill-  
 ward (T). Distance: 60ft. 10ins.  
 Throwing the Javelin—1 C. Down (J), 2 M. Scott (B), 3 J. Dugmore (B), 4 C.  
 Ridgwell (T). Distance: 75ft. 9ins.

UNDER THIRTEEN

BOYS

100 yards—1 Mills iv (J), 2 Sheppard ii (T), 3 Banfield (B), 4 Lancaster (J). Time:  
 13.2 secs.  
 220 yards—1 Sheppard ii (T), 2 Mills iv (J), 3 Lancaster (J), 4 Cooper (T). Time:  
 31 secs.  
 880 yards—1 Mills iv (J), 2 Lancaster (J), 3 Cooper (T), 4 Chambers (J). Time:  
 2 mins. 38.1 secs.\*  
 High Jump—1 Beale (J), 2 Mills iv (J), 3 Edwards (B), 4 Chambers (J). Height:  
 4ft. 2ins.\*  
 Long Jump—1 Mills iv (J), 2 Cooper (T), 3 Chambers (J), 4 Leleu (T). Distance:  
 13ft. 5½ins.  
 Throwing the Cricket Ball—1 Mills iv (J), 2 Lovell (B), 3 Beale (J), 4 Biggs (T).  
 Distance 184ft. 10ins.\*

GIRLS

150 yards—1 G. Draycott (B), 2 J. Pirie (J), 3 A. Lloyd (B), 4 W. Wright (B). Time:  
 21.6 secs.\*  
 High Jump—1 A. Lloyd (B), 2 J. Pirie (J), 3 E. Coveney (J), 4 W. Wright (B).  
 Height: 4ft. 1in.  
 100 yards—1 G. Draycott (B), 2 J. Pirie (J), 3 A. Lloyd (B), 4 W. Wright (B). Time:  
 13.4 secs.  
 Throwing the Rounders Ball—1 M. Wilkes (B), 2 J. Pirie (J), 3 B. Jones (B), 4 R.  
 Wright. Distance: 130ft. 2ins.  
 Long Jump—1 A. Lloyd (B), 2 J. Ramsay (B), 3 W. Wright (B), 4 E. Coveney (J).  
 Distance: 12ft. 6½ins.\*

OTHER EVENTS

Relay (Boys) (24 x 110 yards)—1 Tomtits, 2 Brownies. Time: 5 mins. 46.2 secs.\*  
 Relay (Upper School Boys)—1 Tomtits, 2 Brownies. Time: 1 min. 46.6 secs.\*  
 Relay (Lower School Boys)—1 Tomtits, 2 Jackals. Time: 1 min. 57.6 secs.\*  
 Relay (Upper School Girls)—1 Jackals, 2 Tomtits. Time: 2 mins. 0.4 secs.\*  
 Relay (Lower School Girls)—1 Jackals, 2 Tomtits. Time: 2 mins. 6 secs.\*  
 Tug-of-War—1 Tomtits, 2 Brownies.

The following presentations were made:—

Victor Ludorum Cup—Finnemore (29 points).  
 Victrix Ludorum Cup—Jill Burford (29 points).  
 Junior Victrix Ludorum Cup—Christine Down (39 points).  
 Cross-Country Cup—Jackals.  
 Games Shield—Jackals.  
 Bronze Medals—Davis, Miller, Bailey i, Parker, Stowe, Rouse, Walker, Harris i, Bailey ii, White, Ann Lidgley, Janet Dugmore, Edwina Gregory, Geraldine Draycott.  
 Silver Medals—Finnemore, Gill, Mills iv, Ruth Highman, Pamela O'Nions, Jill Burford, Christine Down, Sybil Dyson, Ann Lloyd, Jean Pirie.  
 Sports Shield—Jackals (462 points). Brownies scored 406 points and Tomtits 322 points.

#### ARTS AND CRAFTS

The following are the results in this year's competitions:—

Bronze Medals—Feast, Lewis i, S. Hall, B. Harrison, N. Pinfield, E. Such, P. Spencer, Leleu, Downie, J. Cowper, M. Millward.  
 Silver Medals—V. Baseley, K. Edwards, Finnemore, A. Holt, M. Norden.  
 "Edith Deans" Memorial Trophy—V. Baseley.  
 Arts and Crafts Shield—Brownies (1,619 points). Jackals scored 1,337 points and Tomtits 1052 points.

### THE ANTIQUE SHOP

One day while in London I was spending an idle afternoon looking round the shops. In a quiet part of the city, tucked between a large, new dry-cleaners and a self-service shop, I came upon an antique shop. It was very small and had bulls-eye window panes. The shop-front itself was badly in need of a coat of paint. The name above the shop window was almost illegible—something like "E. Wiengar." I looked into the dim interior of the shop. Having a passion for oddities and the unusual, I soon found myself opening the door.

The tinkle of an old spring bell above the door seemed to disturb the peaceful atmosphere, and brought the proprietor, accompanied by the shuffle of carpet slippers, from behind heavy plush curtains. He was short, thin, and wore a faded maroon smoking jacket and a small woollen hat, which came right down over his ears, and perched on his beak-like nose were a pair of gold-rimmed pince-nez. I explained that I had not called to make a particular purchase, and he readily invited me to look around.

I was soon lost to bygone days and faraway lands. The Victorian chandeliers and the bits of jewellery around the shop reflected the sunlight that came through the window. I looked at a musical box. It had once been painted in glowing colours, but now the gay colours had gone. In one corner, many lovely hand-painted pieces of china had been displayed.

There were gold candlesticks, Chippendale chairs, small ivory and jade figures, rings, necklaces, bracelets, a few old paintings, old hand-painted crockery, and ivory and feather fans. I wandered round, looking at everything.

I must have been in there for at least three-quarters of an hour. I did not realise how late it was until the old man started putting the shutters up. Although I had not much money, I looked quickly around for something to buy. I decided upon a gaily-painted jug, which was a few inches high. The man gladly wrapped it up in a neat brown paper parcel. I handed over my half-a-crown and closed the door behind me.

YVONNE WESTWOOD (IIIb).

### **HUSTLE AND BUSTLE**

Hustle and bustle! These two words explain what it is like in any fruit market when the sales are on.

Two years ago, my father, a fruit merchant himself, took me to Evesham market, which is quiet when compared to Birmingham market, while the strawberry sales were in progress. A friend of my father is a salesman at Evesham, and he took us round the inside of the market before the sales. Everywhere were small or large stacks of trays of strawberries, a little ticket fixed on each pile to distinguish the grower. Soon the buyers came and the bidding began. Almost faster than one can think the prices rose until the goods were sold, and another ticket was fixed to the pile.

Soon all was sold and the market was empty, unbelievably quiet after all the noise.

A. EDMONDS (IVb).

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### **AUTUMN SCENE**

The ashes, beeches, elms and oaks,  
In autumn wear their coloured cloaks  
Of red and golden hue.

The huntsman in his coat so red,  
Follows his hounds, till fox is dead,  
Then canters slowly home.

Smoke rises from the chimneys tall  
Into the misty air, and all  
Is very cold and still.

ELIZABETH COVENEY (IIa).

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### **THE OLD OAK TREE**

The old oak tree has a wonderful gown,  
The leaves are turning all yellow and brown.  
The birds that sing in the tree all day  
Know that winter is not far away.

When winter is here with the frost and the snow  
Her gown is quite a different show.  
Jack Frost weaves with fingers so light  
His patterns for nothing but sheer delight.

MARGARET POPE (Ia).

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### **NOT SO SWEET**

One day in late July my mother was expecting some old friends on a visit. She had not seen them for many years, and she wanted to welcome them with an especially nice tea. Fortunately, the raspberries were in season, and she went hopefully up the garden with her basket. She found that there was just enough for the seven of us. She bought a tin of the best cream to serve with them, and the table looked very appetising.

The visitors congratulated mother on the very fine, large raspberries she had grown, but soon after we had commenced tea all the talking and laughing stopped, and everybody was strangely silent. Mother, who was still pouring out tea, looked anxiously round to see what was the matter. Father was the first to explain that she had put a liberal sprinkling of salt on the raspberries instead of castor sugar. Everyone laughed heartily; all except mother. Since that day, whenever we have had raspberries, father always passes mother the salt.

P. J. LOVELL (IIb).

### Vith FORM NOTES

This term, we of the Lower Sixth have been persuaded to lay aside our lawless ways of yore and to accustom ourselves to represent the Staff in a way befitting our badge of office.

Now for the first time we fully understand and endure the unspeakable torture to which we, in our unenlightened days of crime, cheerfully doomed prefects now long departed. "As you sow, so also shall you reap."

Under the supervision of the amazingly competent Upper Sixth we have been introduced into a life of rigid discipline. Contrary to our former belief, "field and playground" duty does not imply an excuse for a game of football, but a ceaseless vigil on the orchard and a constant watch on the roofs. These are populated by, respectively, apples and lost balls, which latter are in regular demand, although their succour is prohibited.

The term has been notable for a striking example of the force of gravity, which thus manifests itself: books in the topmost lockers have a really disconcerting habit of falling out, no matter how carefully the door is opened. While the semi-illiterate but no doubt ingenious Science Sixth could possibly find an involved and technical explanation, the phenomenon may more fairly be attributed to the presence in our midst of restless spirits (one of whom needs a hair-cut).

In the field of sport, four boys represent the School in the 1st XI football team (even Lewis having aged too much to play for the under-15's), while six girls play in the School hockey XI's and four in the 1st netball VII.

To conclude, we would like to wish all possible success to those again attempting the G.C.E. Ordinary Level Examination this term, and also to those leaving to take up employment elsewhere.

M. JAMES and D. E. SALE.

### OXFORD EXAMINATIONS FOR

#### GENERAL CERTIFICATE OF EDUCATION

The following are the details of successes of pupils in the examinations held in June/July, 1955:—

#### SIXTH FORM

A—Advanced level. O—Ordinary level.

P. Bates, *French* (O); R. G. Baylis, *Additional Mathematics* (O), *Physics* (O); M. A. Clecton, *Pure Mathematics* (A), *Applied Mathematics* (A, with distinction), *Physics* (A); P. A. T. Davis, *Pure Mathematics* (A, with distinction), *Applied Mathematics* (A, with distinction), *Physics* (A); S. A. Hall, *English* (A), *History* (A), *Geography* (A); B. F. Harrison, *Pure Mathematics* (A), *Applied Mathematics* (A), *Physics* (O); G. D. Keyte, *Pure and Applied Mathematics, joint papers* (A), *Physics* (A), *Chemistry*

(A). *Music* (A); S. A. Merris, *English* (A), *History* (A); B. C. Miller, *Pure Mathematics* (A), *Applied Mathematics* (A), *Physics* (A); P. Palmer, *Pure and Applied Mathematics*, joint papers (A), *Biology* (O); A. W. Thornton, *Additional Mathematics* (O); S. M. Winspear, *History* (A).

### FIFTH FORM

All Ordinary level.

P. M. Apperley, *English Language*, *French*, *History*, *Mathematics*; J. L. Bennett, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Art*; S. A. Bint, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *History*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*; G. D. Birch, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*; M. A. Bluck, *English Literature*, *Art*; R. M. Bolt, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *History*, *Mathematics*; J. N. Bough, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Geography*, *Art*; R. W. Broadley, *English Language*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*; J. M. Burden, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Mathematics*; A. R. Compson, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *French*, *History*, *Art*; P. C. Cooke, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *French*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*; A. M. Davis, *English Literature*, *Art*; J. Dixon, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *History*, *Mathematics*; M. P. Finnemore, *English Language*, *History*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*, *Physics*, *Chemistry*; A. P. Fletcher, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *History*, *Art*; P. A. Fowler, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *French*, *Mathematics*; B. A. Freeman, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *History*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*, *Biology*; C. S. Gardner, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Mathematics*; M. Grail, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; M. J. Harrison, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*; M. J. Hawthorne, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Geography*, *Art*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; A. J. Hodson, *English Literature*, *Geography*, *Art*, *Mathematics*, *Physics*, *Chemistry*; E. A. Holt, *Mathematics*; M. C. James, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *History*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; A. R. Jones, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Geography*; B. Jones, *English Language*, *Art*, *Mathematics*; C. M. Jones, *English Language*, *Geography*, *Art*, *Mathematics*; R. C. Lewis, *English Language*, *French*, *History*, *Geography*; M. B. Lowe, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *French*, *History*, *Mathematics*, *Biology*; B. R. Morris, *English Language*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*, *Physics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; M. H. Mills, *Mathematics*; S. A. Palmer, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Art*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; R. B. Parker, *English Language*, *Mathematics*, *Physics*; N. J. Pinfield, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *Geography*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; M. J. Pugh, *English Language*; D. E. Sale, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *History*, *Mathematics*, *Chemistry*, *Biology*; R. A. Sharpe, *English Language*, *English Literature*, *Latin*, *French*, *Mathematics*; D.

Sheppard, *English Language*; J. N. Smart, *English Language, English Literature, Art*; A. J. Treadgold, *English Language, English Literature, French, History, Mathematics, Physics, Chemistry*; P. Walker, *English Language, English Literature, Mathematics, Chemistry*; A. M. Ward, *English Language, English Literature, Latin, French, History, Mathematics, Chemistry*; D. J. Ward, *English Language, English Literature, Geography, Mathematics*; J. M. Webb, *English Language, English Literature, French, Geography, Art, Mathematics*; B. A. Whitehouse, *Mathematics*.

### NATIONAL SAVINGS

Since making my last report, the savings in this Group has maintained a steady average. During the Summer Term we saved £126 4s. over thirteen weeks, and at the time of writing our savings for the past nine weeks total £77 12s. 6d. Oddly enough, this means that, to the nearest shilling, our average weekly savings in both terms has been £9 14s.

It is perhaps too much to hope for another record year such as we experienced during the Two Million New Savers Campaign; but it seems a pity if many of those who began saving regularly last winter should no longer visit us on Fridays.

In July, we said goodbye to Sheila Hall, who left school to go to college near Rugby. She had been a most conscientious National Savings Prefect for the past three years, and we sincerely hope that she will be both happy and successful in her new career.

MISS YOUNG, *Hon Secretary*.

### THE COUNTRY DANCE SOCIETY

*Secretary*: J. Rawbone.

*Treasurer*: B. Pope.

*Committee*: A. Swinglehurst, R. Highman, S. Hunt.

This term we have increased our numbers from 24 to 33 and, even so, many would-be members had to be disappointed. Thus a more careful organisation is required in order to obtain the full advantage of the floor space in the gym. Our committee consists entirely of pupils from the Upper VI. We have learnt several new dances, despite the rather temperamental nature of the fated needle of the record-player, and time has been taken up in helping the new members to master the basic steps. Several new records have been purchased.

It has been suggested that about once a month we should include in our Friday afternoon programme a few modern dances.

We hope to hold our two customary Christmas Parties at the end of term.

B. POPE.

### **THE CHESS CLUB**

The nine members usually play friendly games, but sometimes games for the ladder competition are played. Sheppard leads the ladder, with Bailey in second place. We have now started our knock-out competition, and we hope to announce the winner in next term's *Record*.

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### **PHOTOGRAPHIC SOCIETY**

Our activities this term have been mostly confined to lectures, some of which have been of particular interest, especially one on "The Many Modern Applications of Photography."

We have also spent an interesting afternoon making contact prints, obtaining some reasonably good results.

Our last term's experiments with flash photography also proved successful.

P. F. DAVIS.

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### **THE AEROMODELLING SOCIETY**

There are upwards of 24 members of this society, in the main engaged in building light aircraft in balsa wood. Some of the finished models have had brief flights, but each experiment results in the need for many repairs. Some members are using small diesel-type motors; others still use strong elastic bands. It is hoped that some of the younger members may construct a reliable model glider this term.

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### **SCOUTS**

This term we welcome Mr. Tidmarsh as our new Scoutmaster, and also the new tenderfoot recruits from the lower forms. Banfield and Dyson have now been promoted to Patrol Leaders.

The whole troop has started to learn morse under the guidance of Mr. Tidmarsh, and we all hope to be able to send and receive messages quickly. Other troop activities have included tracking and the learning of various Scout "tests," especially the Tenderfoot for the new recruits. Games, such as British Bulldogs and Kim's Game, have been played.

The whole troop would like to welcome back D. Lancaster from his illness in hospital.

B. R. MERRIS, Troop Leader.



### THE GUIDE COMPANY

This year the Guide Company has been taken over by Miss Norman, who is acting as Captain. Some of the senior Guides left at the end of last term, but their places have been taken by girls out of the Junior School. We have three patrols, Kingfisher (Patrol Leader, Enid Jenkins), Robin (Acting Patrol Leader, Margaret Scott) and Swallow (Patrol Leader, Irene Benfield). The new Guides are working hard to pass their Tenderfoot test, and most of them have succeeded in passing some parts of it. There are a few Guides preparing for second and first-class badges. Our meetings are held on a Friday afternoon in the Art Room.

IRENE BENFIELD, Company Leader.

### A.G.S. PLATOON 7/11 BN. ROYAL WARWICKSHIRE REGT. ARMY CADET FORCE

This term the unit has been greatly reorganised owing to five N.C.O.s having left the School. They are Sgts. Miller and Davis, and Cpls. Thornton, Baylis and Ledbury, all of whom have given valuable service to the unit. We wish them every success in their chosen careers.

Promotions this term are : Cpls. Birch and Oseland to sergeants, and Cadets Bennett, Broadley and Stowe to lance-corporals.

Our strength is now 22, there being six recruits from the junior forms.

Last term, L/Cpls. Thornton, Baylis and Ledbury gained their Cert. "A" II at the Regimental Depot, and were promoted to corporals. Also, last term, Cadets Harthill, Batchelor, Cotter, Nutbeam, Bridgman and Dale passed their Cert. "A" I.

At the Brigade sports last June, L/Cpl. Stowe was first in the 440 yards, and Sgt. Davis third in the javelin.

During the summer holidays, Sgt. Birch attended the annual camp of 7th. Battrn. (T.A.) Royal Warwicks. Regt. at Scarborough. He received valuable training and experience, including field firing and a company exercise.

On Friday, October 21st, a shooting contest was held. The individual winner was Sgt. Oseland with 68 points, and L/Cpl. Stowe was the runner-up with 67 points after a shoot-off. The winning section was No. 2 Section.

Training took place during the half-term holiday, organised by Sgt. Birch, for senior cadets. Much useful practical training was carried out. It is hoped to have more of these training days.

We are very pleased to record the success of Sgt. Birch in passing the entrance examination for Welbeck College, but we shall be very sorry to lose this cadet, who has given outstanding service to the unit.

**FOOTBALL***Captain, 1st XI:* Bates.*Captain, Under-15 XI:* Gill.*Secretary:* Lewis i.

Despite the loss of several of last season's successful side, the football 1st XI is, to date unbeaten, six games having been played, four of which have been won and two drawn. We were pleased to record a victory over King's Norton 1st XI, the first for several seasons. It is hoped that the successes will continue for next term's tough fixtures.

The Under-15 XI have not been so successful, having won only one of the four games played—against the Studley Secondary Modern School, a new fixture. Although the side has suffered heavy defeats in the other games, their play is improving, despite the fact that some of the side have been on call for the 1st XI.

**RESULTS**

- A.G.S. 1st XI. *v.* Evesham P.H.G.S. (away), drawn, 2—2.  
.. *v.* Chipping Campden G.S. (away), drawn, 0—0.  
.. *v.* King's Norton G.S. (away), won, 3—2.  
.. *v.* Stratford N.F.U. (away), won, 4—0.  
.. *v.* Birmingham University Geog. Dept. (home), won, 2—1.  
.. *v.* Worcester J.T.C. (home), won, 10—1.  
A.G.S. under 15 XI. *v.* Evesham P.H.G.S. (home), lost, 2—8.  
.. *v.* Studley S.M.S. (home), won, 2—1.  
.. *v.* King's Norton G.S. (away), lost, 0—6.  
.. *v.* Worcester J.T.C. (home), lost, 0—3.

R. LEWIS.

**HOCKEY***Captain:* R. Highman.*Vice-Captain:* J. Rawbone.*Secretary:* B. Pope.

Practices are being held regularly during Monday and Friday lunch hours and after school on Tuesday. They are attended by team members and some very enthusiastic Second Formers.

Having lost many of our players, we have been unable to maintain last year's unbeaten record, but as we gain match experience and play more as a team we hope to have more successes. Our first fixture with strong Redditch sides resulted in a defeat for both teams, but we were by no means disgraced. However, we benefited from this match and faced Evesham with far more confidence, the results being 6—1 and 3—1 in our favour.

At the Warwickshire Inter-Schools Hockey Tournament the 1st XI were very successful, winning their section, but losing a hard-fought match against King Edward's High School in the semi-final, and in the final placing came third. We should like to congratulate A. Swinglehurst on being selected for the final County Trials.

The School has been represented by :—

1st XI : M. Scott; B. Pope, J. Dugmore; J. Holt, A. Swinglehurst, J. Bullock; R. Highman, C. Down, J. Rawbone, J. Burford, S. Hunt.

2nd XI : F. Jackson; A. Grosvenor, P. Spencer; A. Holt, M. Norden, G. Clews; P. Fowler, J. Jordan, E. Gregory, S. Dyson, B. Jones, A. Bird and J. Burden.

### RESULTS

- A.G.S. 1st XI. v. Redditch C.H.S. (home), lost, 2—4.  
 „ v. Evesham P.H.G.S. (away), won, 6—1.  
 „ v. Chipping Campden G.S. (away), lost, 1—4.  
 „ v. Studley College (away), drawn, 2—2.  
 A.G.S. 2nd XI. v. Redditch C.H.S. (home), lost, 2—4.  
 „ v. Evesham P.H.G.S. (away), won, 3—1.  
 „ v. Chipping Campden G.S. (away), lost 1—5.

R.H.

### NETBALL

*Captain* : J. Rawbone. *Vice-Captain* : A. Swinglehurst.

We have played three first team and two second team matches this term. The games against Leamington were as evenly matched as the scores suggest, but the Worcester teams seemed just that much quicker than ourselves.

The first team played Studley College and, taking the lead right from the start, held it throughout.

Practices have been held regularly, and these have been attended by both teams and some very enthusiastic Second Formers. We are forming a junior team, and their first match will be against Hugh Clopton School, Stratford-on-Avon.

The School has been represented by the following :—

1st VII : J. Burford, J. Dugmore, J. Rawbone, A. Swinglehurst, B. Pope, E. Gregory, S. Tilsley and E. Stewart.

2nd VII : R. Highman, M. Millward, C. Down, J. Bullock, M. Scott, G. Nicholls, S. Tilsley, E. Stewart, M. Rogers, W. Wright.

### RESULTS

- A.G.S. 1st VII. v. Leamington College (away), drawn, 6—6.  
 „ v. Studley College (home), won, 12—6.  
 „ v. Worcester G.S. (away), lost, 8—15.  
 A.G.S. 2nd VII. v. Leamington College (away), drawn, 3—3.  
 „ v. Worcester G.S. (away), lost, 4—13.

J. RAWBONE.

## SUPPLEMENTARY RESULTS

The following details complete the record of summer games:—

### CRICKET (Boys)

A.G.S. 1st XI. v. Chipping Campden G.S. (home), drawn, 70—50 for seven.  
 „ v. Redditch C.H.S. (away), drawn, 63 for nine—122 for four (dec.).  
 SIDES: Brownies 34, Tomtits 35 for no wicket; Jackals 37 for six (dec.). Tomtits 19 for three; Jackals 53 for four (dec.). Brownies 28 for seven.  
 SIDES (Junior): Brownies 35, Tomtits 34; Brownies 41, Jackals 42 for two; Tomtits 16, Jackals 21 for three.

### ANALYSIS

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
A.G.S. 1st XI. ....	6	1	3	2

Colours were awarded to Pinfield.

### TENNIS

A.G.S. 1st VI. v. Chipping Campden G.S. (home), won, 9 sets—0 sets.  
 „ v. Leamington College (home), won, 9 sets—0 sets.  
 „ v. Redditch C.H.S. (away), won, 7 sets—2 sets.  
 SIDES: Jackals 7, Tomtits 2; Jackals 8, Brownies 1; Tomtits 9, Brownies 0.

### ANALYSIS

	Played	Won	Lost
A.G.S. 1st VI. ....	8	8	—

Colours were awarded to A. Lidgley, S. Merris, P. O'Nions and M. Lowe.

### ROUNDERS

A.G.S. 1st IX. v. Chipping Campden G.S. (home), won, 10—8.  
 „ v. Leamington College (home), lost, 5—15.  
 „ v. Redditch C.H.S. (away), lost, 4—11.  
 A.G.S. 2nd IX. v. Chipping Campden G.S. (home), lost, 2—12.  
 „ v. Leamington College (home), lost, 3—20½.  
 „ v. Redditch C.H.S. (away), lost, 3½—7.  
 SIDES: Tomtits 4, Jackals 4; Brownies 10, Tomtits 5½; Tomtits 9, Brownies 0.

### ANALYSIS

	Played	Won	Drawn	Lost
A.G.S. 1st IX. ....	8	4	—	4
A.G.S. 2nd IX. ....	6	2	—	4

Colours were awarded to A. Bluck and M. Scott.

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